

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

In response to the BPAI decision including a new ground of rejection (dated 1/28/2010), Applicant filed an appropriate amendment to overcome the rejection. The application has been remanded to the Examiner for further consideration, and it has now been concluded that the pending claims overcome the rejection and contain allowable subject matter.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with B Noel Kivlin (Reg. No. 33,929) on 8/17/2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

32. The system of claim 30,
wherein creating the second file and the third file comprises creating the second file and the third file in the common directory with the first file.

38. A method comprising:

a computing device performing operations of:

creating a first file representing a first version of a data object;

detecting a conflict between a first replica of the first version of the data object and a second replica of the first version of the data object;

in response to detecting the conflict:

modifying a tree structure representing the data object to reflect the conflict, wherein modifying the tree structure comprises adding information to the tree structure representing a branching from the first version of the data object to a second version of the data object and a third version of the data object, wherein the first replica of the first version of the data object represents the second version of the data object and the second replica of the first version of the data object represents the third version of the data object;

creating a second file representing the second version of the data object;

creating a third file representing the third version of the data object;
and

storing the second file and the third file in a common directory in a file system.

40. The method of claim 38,

wherein creating the second file and the third file comprises creating the second file from the third file in the common directory with the first file.

45. The computer-readable memory medium of claim 43,

wherein creating the second file and the third file comprises creating the second file and the third file in the common directory with the first file.

50. The computing node of claim 48,

wherein creating the second file and the third file comprises creating the second file and the third file in the common directory with the first file.

Reason for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 30, 32 – 38, 40 – 43, 45 – 48 and 50 – 51 are allowed.

Applicant's invention is directed towards a system and method for performing conflict resolution for a distributed file sharing system, and creating a special directory called "conflict bin" within a file system, in order to store conflicting replica versions therein. Ecklund reference, on the other hand, teaches a system for merging virtual partitions in a distributed data base system.

Ecklund teaches, or at least renders obvious, a number of steps recited in the Applicant's invention, including "creating a first file representing a first version of a data object", "detecting a conflict between a first replica ... and a second replica ...", "modifying a tree structure representing the data object to reflect the conflict ...", "creating a second file representing the second version ..." and "creating a third file representing the third version ...". However, Ecklund neither teaches nor render obvious the feature of **"storing the second file and the third file in a common**

directory in a file system" in combination with the other steps. In other words, Ecklund is deficient on creating a special directory in which conflicting replica versions are stored.

For the foregoing reasons, it has been concluded that claims 30, 38, 43 and 48 are allowable. Claims 32 – 37, 40 – 42, 45 – 47 and 50 – 51 are also allowable by virtue of dependency.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SANGWOO AHN whose telephone number is (571)272-5626. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 10-6.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Tim T. Vo/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2168

8/18/2010
/S. A./
Examiner, Art Unit 2168